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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/554,131

10/20/2005

Mary Ann T. Valk

OT-5177

9385

7590

05/20/2008

Thomas Osborn  
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EXAMINER

SALATA, ANTHONY J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2837

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/20/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/554,131	<b>Applicant(s)</b> VALK ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Jonathan Salata	<b>Art Unit</b> 2837	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10-20-05</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                          |

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND  
TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Paper No:20080515  
Application No: 10/554131  
Filing Date: October 20,2005

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1,4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hikita et al (5250766).

Hikita et al teaches in figures 1-8, an elevator controller.

A group controller 10 and cage controller 11,12 for a multi-floor building (figure 8) contains

Landing 10a and car 11B call and assignment means 10B to assign the best car to the call.

Allocation program (figures 4-7) illustrate the use of estimated time for the selected car to answer the call , and estimated arrival time to reach the destination 33,34,36 before an allocation program is enacted.

The Background of the Invention and col. 13 illustrate the use of the sum of squares for car assignment.

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3. Claims 2,3 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the determination of the estimate of elapse time, travel time, perceived travel time and service time for the determination of each car available in a particular hall call.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kiji et al is cited to illustrate a similar elevator car assignment system.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 months from the date of this letter.

Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Any inquiry of a **general nature** should be directed to the **Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2800.**

**Information regarding the STATUS of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either private PAIR or public PARI. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR ONLY. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Any questions on access to PAIR, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).**

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 2800 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 2800 via the PTO 2800 Fax Center. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 O.G. 30 (November 15, 1989). The Fax Center number is (571) 273-8300.

For assistance in **Patent procedure, fees or general Patent questions** calls should be directed to the **Inventors Assistance Center (IAC) whose telephone number is 800-PTO-9199 or 800-786-9199**. Assistance is also available on the Internet at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov).

**For requesting copies of Cited Art, Office Actions or the like, response to Status Letters, lost papers or files or General Problem solving, calls should be directed to the TC 2800 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is 571-272-2800 or by fax at 571-273-8300.**

Any inquiry concerning **this communication or earlier communications from the examiner** should be directed to **Jonathan Salata whose telephone number is (571) 272-2073**. The examiner does not have as detailed access as the previously listed numbers with regard to status or general problem solving. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lincoln Donovan, can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 37.

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ajs

May 19, 2008

/Jonathan Salata/  
**JONATHAN SALATA**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT 2837**